Amendment and Response to Species Election Requirement Application No. 10/709,141

REMARKS

The Applicants hereby amend claims 3, 6, 14–20, and 22–25 to address minor wording issues. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, the drawings, and the claims as originally filed. No new matter is introduced by the claim amendments. After the entry of this paper, claims 1–26 will be pending in this application.

The Office action indicates that there are five patentably distinct species depicted in the figures, namely:

Species I: Figures 1 and 2A;

Species II: Figures 1 and 2B;

Species III: Figure 3;

Species IV: Figure 4; and

Species V: Figure 5.

The Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Species III, as represented by Figure 3. The Applicants respectfully submit that all pending claims 1–26 are readable on the elected species.

CONCLUSION

The Applicants respectfully request that the application now proceed promptly to examination. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conversation with the Applicants' attorney would expedite the allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 570-1973.

Respectfully submitted,

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